

What is claimed is:

1. A cabinet having an enclosed interior space for storing surface mount devices in an environment of low relative humidity comprising; a desiccator, a nitrogen generator or both associated with said cabinet and transportable therewith, means
5 to receive a supply of compressed air communicating with said desiccator or said nitrogen generator or both and means to direct a dry gas stream from said desiccator or said nitrogen generator into the interior of the said cabinet to maintain a low humidity environment in said interior space.
- 10 2. The cabinet of claim 1 including said nitrogen generator.
3. The cabinet of claim 2 wherein said nitrogen generator comprises a membrane capable of separating air to form a concentrated nitrogen gas stream.
- 15 4. The cabinet of claim 3 wherein said membrane comprising a polymeric membrane.
5. The cabinet of claim 4 wherein said membrane is a hollow fiber polymeric membrane.
- 20 6. The cabinet of claim 3 comprising a plurality of said membranes
7. The cabinet of claim 2 wherein said nitrogen generator comprises a particulate adsorbent capable of adsorbing one or more components of air and form a
25 concentrated nitrogen gas stream.

8. The cabinet of claim 7 wherein said concentrated nitrogen gas stream is formed by a pressure swing adsorption system.

9. The cabinet of claim 1 including said desiccator.

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10. The cabinet of claim 1 including both said desiccator and said nitrogen generator.

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11. The cabinet of claim 1 wherein said desiccator and/or nitrogen generator is an integral part of said cabinet.

12. The cabinet of claim 11 containing a flow controller to vary the volume of said dry gas stream directed into the interior of said cabinet.

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13. The cabinet of claim 1 further containing a storage means for storing said dry gas stream from said desiccator, said nitrogen generator or both.

14. The cabinet of claim 1 further including a filter to remove particulates from said compressed air received from said supply.

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15. A method of storing surface mount devices in the interior of a cabinet and maintaining a low relative humidity in the interior of said cabinet comprising:

directing a supply of compressed air to a dry gas forming means in the form of a desiccator or a nitrogen generator associated with said cabinet and transportable

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therewith, forming a dry air gas stream or a dry nitrogen gas stream from said dry gas forming means and directing said dry air or dry nitrogen stream into the interior

of said cabinet so as to maintain a low relative humidity in the interior space of said cabinet while storing said surface mount devices.

5 16. The method of claim 15 comprises forming a dry nitrogen gas stream by directing said compressed air stream to said nitrogen generator.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein said dry nitrogen gas stream is formed by membrane separation of said compressed air stream.

10 18. The method of claim 15 wherein the relative humidity in the interior of said cabinet is maintained at 5% or less.

19. The method of claim 15 wherein said dry gas stream is a dry air stream formed by directing said compressed air stream to said desiccator.

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20. The method of claim 15 wherein said dry gas forming means is an integral part of said cabinet.

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